

U.S. Department of Justice

Michael J. Sullivan United States Attorney District of Massachusetts

Main Reception: (617) 748-3100

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse 1 Courthouse Way Suite 9200 Boston, Massachusetts 02210

March 24, 2006

James Coviello, Esq. 303 Main Street Charlestown, MA 02129

Re:

United States v. Jean Noriscat Criminal No. 05-10110-MLW

Dear Mr. Coviello:

This letter sets forth the Agreement between the United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts ("the U.S. Attorney") and your client, Jean Noriscat ("Defendant"), in the abovecaptioned case. The Agreement is as follows:

1. Change of Plea

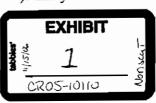
At the earliest practicable date, Defendant shall plead guilty to all counts in which he is named in the above-captioned Indictment. Defendant expressly and unequivocally admits that he in fact knowingly, intentionally and willfully committed the crimes charged in counts one, six, seven, eight, nine, and fourteen of the Indictment, and is in fact guilty of those offenses. Specifically, defendant expressly admits that he conspired with the other named defendants as well as other individuals to commit bank fraud by cashing and depositing counterfeit checks, and instructing other to cash and deposit counterfeit checks, knowing those checks to be counterfeit.

2. Penalties

Defendant faces the following maximum penalties:

For Conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (count one): Five years imprisonment, three years of supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, a \$100 special assessment, and restitution in an amount to be determined by the Court, up to \$1,000,000.

For each of the Bank Fraud Charges (counts six, seven, eight, nine and fourteen): thirty



years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, a \$100 special assessment, and restitution in an amount to be determined by the Court, up to \$1,000,000.

3. Sentencing Guidelines

The sentence to be imposed upon Defendant is within the discretion of the sentencing Court, subject to the statutory maximum penalties set forth above, and the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act and the United States Sentencing Guidelines promulgated thereunder, as modified by <u>United States v. Booker</u> and <u>United States v. Fanfan</u>, 125 S.Ct. 738, 2005 WL 50108 (January 12, 2005). In imposing the sentence, the Court must consult and take into account the United States Sentencing Guidelines, along with the other factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. §3553(a).

The United States will take the following positions at sentencing with respect to the application of the United States Sentencing Guidelines:

The United States agrees to take the position that pursuant to United States Sentencing Guidelines § 2B1.1(a)(1)(B), the base offense level is 7. Defendant is subject to a 14 level increase because the total loss that was foreseeable to the defendant, was between \$400,000 and \$1,000,000, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(H). Defendant is also subject to a 3 level increase as a manager or supervisor in the conspiracy with five or more participants, pursuant to U.S.S.G. §3B1.1. Thus, defendant total Offense Level is 24.

Defendant reserves the right to challenge the amount of loss attributable to him. Defendant also reserves the right to ask the Court to sentence the defendant to a sentence below the otherwise applicable guideline sentencing range.

In the event Defendant contends that there is a basis for departure from the otherwise applicable U.S. Sentencing Guideline range based on his medical, mental and/or emotional condition, or otherwise intends to rely on any such condition at sentencing, Defendant will, forthwith upon request, execute all releases and other documentation necessary to permit the U.S. Attorney and his experts (including medical personnel of the Bureau of Prisons) to obtain access to Defendant's medical, psychiatric, and psychotherapeutic records and will also provide to the U.S. Attorney forthwith copies of any such records already in his possession. In addition, Defendant will authorize his care providers to discuss his condition with the U.S. Attorney his and his agents (including medical personnel of the Bureau of Prisons), as well as experts retained by the U.S. Attorney. Defendant also agrees to submit to examinations and interviews with experts retained by and chosen by the U.S. Attorney (including medical personnel of the Bureau of Prisons).

The U.S. Attorney reserves the right to oppose Defendant's departure arguments.

The U.S. Attorney expressly reserves the right to seek an upward departure pursuant to U.S.S.G. §4A1.3 should any of Defendant's prior state convictions be vacated or Defendant's

Criminal History Category otherwise change after his indictment in this case. Thus, for example, the government may contend that an upward departure under §4A1.3 is appropriate if a state-court conviction that existed at the time of Defendant's indictment is vacated and that vacation alters Defendant's Criminal History Category.

Based on Defendant's prompt acceptance of personal responsibility for the offenses of conviction in this case, and information known to the U.S. Attorney at this time, the U.S. Attorney agrees to recommend that the Court reduce by three levels Defendant's Adjusted Offense Level under U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1.

The U.S. Attorney specifically reserves the right not to recommend a reduction under U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1 if, at any time between his execution of this Agreement and sentencing Defendant:

- (a) Fails to admit a complete factual basis for the plea;
- (b) Fails to truthfully admit his conduct in the offenses of conviction;
- (c) Falsely denies, or frivolously contests, relevant conduct for which Defendant is accountable under U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3;
- (d) Fails to provide truthful information about his financial status;
- (e) Gives false or misleading testimony in any proceeding relating to the criminal conduct charged in this case and any relevant conduct for which Defendant is accountable under U.S.S.G. § 1B1.3;
- (f) Engages in acts which form a basis for finding that Defendant has obstructed or impeded the administration of justice under U.S.S.G. § 3C1.1;
- (g) Intentionally fails to appear in Court or violates any condition of release;
- (h) Commits a crime;
- (i) Transfers any asset protected under any provision of this Agreement; and/or
- (j) Attempts to withdraw his guilty plea.

Defendant expressly understands that he may not withdraw his plea of guilty if, for any of the reasons listed above, the U.S. Attorney does not recommend that he receive a reduction in Offense Level for acceptance of responsibility.

Defendant expressly understands that, in addition to declining to recommend an acceptance-of-responsibility adjustment, the Government may seek an upward adjustment pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3C1.1 if Defendant obstructs justice after date of this Agreement.

4. Sentence Recommendation

In the event the U.S. Attorney does not file a motion under U.S.S.G. §5K1.1, the U.S. Attorney agrees to recommend the following sentence before the District Court:

- A period of incarceration or other confinement within the guideline range; (a)
- A fine within the applicable guideline range unless the court finds that (b) Defendant is not able and, even with the use of a reasonable installment schedule, is not likely to become able to pay a fine;
- Restitution of \$413,809; (c)
- (d) Forfeiture as set forth in paragraph 11;
- The mandatory \$100 special assessment for each of the counts; (e)
- (f) A three year period of supervised release.

Defendant agrees that he will provide to the U.S. Attorney expert reports, motions, memoranda of law and documentation of any kind on which he intends to rely at sentencing not later than twenty-one days before sentencing. Any basis for sentencing with respect to which all expert reports, motions, memoranda of law and documentation have not been provided to the U.S. Attorney at least twenty-one days before sentencing shall be deemed waived.

In the event of an appeal from, or collateral challenge to, Defendant's sentence, the U.S. Attorney reserves his right to argue the correctness of Defendant's sentence and the manner in which the District Court determines it.

5. Payment of Mandatory Special Assessment

Defendant agrees to pay the mandatory special assessment to the Clerk of the Court on or before the date of sentencing, unless Defendant establishes to the satisfaction of the Court that Defendant is financially unable to do so.

6. Protection of Assets for Payment of Restitution, Forfeiture and Fine

Defendant agrees not to transfer, or authorize the transfer of, any asset which has been

restrained by Order of the Court in this case or any asset, whether or not restrained, which Defendant has agreed to forfeit pursuant to this Agreement.

Defendant agrees not to transfer, or authorize the transfer of any other asset in which he has an interest without prior express written consent of the U.S. Attorney, except for:

- Assets subject to superior, secured interests of innocent third parties, in (1) which Defendant has an equity interest of less than \$500;
- (2) Ordinary living expenses necessary to house, clothe, transport and feed Defendant and those to whom he owes a legal duty of support, so long as such assets do not exceed \$1000 per month; and
- Attorney's fees incurred in connection with this criminal case. (3)

This prohibition shall be effective as of the date of Defendant's execution of this Agreement and continue until the fine, forfeiture and/or restitution ordered by the Court at sentencing is satisfied in full.

Defendant further agrees that, prior to sentencing, he will truthfully and accurately complete the sworn financial statement enclosed with this Agreement.

7. Waiver of Rights to Appeal and to Bring Collateral Challenge

Defendant is aware that he has the right to challenge his sentence and guilty plea on direct appeal. Defendant is also aware that he may, in some circumstances, be able to argue that his plea should be set aside, or his sentence set aside or reduced, in a collateral challenge (such as pursuant to a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255).

Provided that the U.S. Attorney files a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. §5K1.1 as further described in section 8 of this Agreement, and in consideration of the concessions made by the U.S. Attorney in this Agreement, Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives his right to appeal or collaterally challenge:

- (1) Defendant's guilty plea and any other aspect of Defendant's conviction, including, but not limited to, any rulings on pretrial suppression motions or any other pretrial dispositions of motions and issues; and
- **(2)** The imposition by the District Court of a sentence which does not exceed that being recommended by the U.S. Attorney pursuant to this agreement.

Defendant's waiver of rights to appeal and to bring collateral challenges shall not apply to appeals or challenges based on new legal principles in First Circuit or Supreme Court cases

decided after the date of this Agreement which are held by the First Circuit or Supreme Court to have retroactive effect.

Defendant's waiver also shall not extend to an appeal or collateral challenge based solely on the argument that the District Court misunderstood the scope of its authority to depart from the applicable Sentencing Guidelines range, where the District Court states on the record at sentencing both its desire to depart and the basis on which it would depart if it had the legal authority to do so.

This Agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3742(b), and the U.S. Attorney therefore retains his appeal rights.

8. Cooperation

Terms of Cooperation a.

Defendant agrees to cooperate fully with law enforcement agents and government attorneys. He must provide complete and truthful information to all law enforcement personnel. If his testimony is requested, he must testify truthfully and completely before any grand jury, and at any hearing and trial. Defendant must answer all questions put to him by any law enforcement agents or government attorneys and must not withhold any information. He must not attempt to protect any person or entity through false information or omission, or to implicate falsely any person or entity. Upon request, he must furnish all documents, objects and other evidence in his possession, custody or control that are relevant to the government's inquiries.

Defendant understands that he has a right to have counsel present when communicating with representatives of the government concerning the criminal conduct with which he has been charged. To facilitate his cooperation, Defendant hereby knowingly and voluntarily waives this right with respect to all debriefings by law enforcement agents and government attorneys and all appearances to testify. This waiver may be revoked at any time by a specific request by Defendant or his counsel without otherwise affecting the terms or enforceability of this Agreement.

To enable the Court to have the benefit of all relevant sentencing information, Defendant waives any rights he may have to prompt sentencing and will join in any requests by the U.S. Attorney that sentencing be postponed until Defendant's cooperation is complete. Defendant understands that the date of Defendant's sentencing is within the sole discretion of the Court and that this Agreement may require Defendant's cooperation to continue even after Defendant has been sentenced. Defendant's failure to continue to cooperate pursuant to the terms of this Agreement after sentence is imposed shall constitute a breach of this Agreement by Defendant.

b. Substantial Assistance Motion

In the event that Defendant provides substantial assistance in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed a criminal offense, the U.S. Attorney agrees that, at or before the time of sentencing, the U.S. Attorney will make a motion under U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1.

The determination whether Defendant has provided substantial assistance rests solely in the discretion of the U.S. Attorney and is not subject to appeal or review. The U.S. Attorney expressly reserves the right to decline to file a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1 if Defendant violates any condition of his pretrial release, violates any of the requirements of honesty and candor detailed in paragraph 8(a) above, or engages in any criminal conduct after the date he signs this Agreement. Defendant may not withdraw his plea if the U.S. Attorney determines that Defendant has not rendered substantial assistance, or if the Court refuses to grant the U.S. Attorney's motion for a downward departure.

c. Sentence Recommendation with Substantial Assistance

If Defendant provides substantial assistance, subject to all the provisions of paragraphs 8(a) and (b) above, the U.S. Attorney will advise the sentencing judge of the full nature, extent and value of the assistance provided by Defendant.

The U.S. Attorney reserves the right to recommend a particular sentence or sentencing range, or to make no recommendation at Defendant's sentencing.

d. <u>Letter Immunity</u>

In return for Defendant's full and truthful cooperation, the U.S. Attorney agrees not to use any information provided by Defendant pursuant to this Agreement or pursuant to the proffer letter dated August 9, 2005 (or any information directly or indirectly derived therefrom) against Defendant in any criminal case except in a prosecution (1) for perjury or obstruction of justice, or for making a false statement after the date of this Agreement; or (2) for an act of physical violence against the person of another, or conspiracy to commit any such act of violence. The U.S. Attorney reserves the right to respond fully and completely to all requests for information by the District Court and U.S. Probation Office in this case. All such disclosures, however, shall be made subject to the provisions constraining the use of this information by the District Court and U.S. Probation Office contained in U.S.S.G. § 1B1.8(a) and the commentary thereto.

Notwithstanding the provisions of U.S.S.G. § 1B1.8(b)(5) and the commentary thereto, the U.S. Attorney agrees to take the position that at the time of sentencing information provided by Defendant pursuant to this Agreement should not be used either in determining where within the applicable guideline range to sentence Defendant or in determining whether, or to what extent, a departure from the Sentencing Guidelines is warranted.

If the U.S. Attorney determines that Defendant has breached this Agreement by making any false, incomplete or misleading statement, or by providing any false, incomplete or misleading information to any law enforcement personnel, grand jury or court, the U.S. Attorney may terminate this Agreement as set forth below, and may also prosecute Defendant for any and all offenses that could be charged against him in the District of Massachusetts, including, but not limited to, false statements and perjury.

9. Court Not Bound By Agreement

The sentencing recommendations made by the parties and their respective calculations under the Sentencing Guidelines are not binding upon the U.S. Probation Office or the sentencing judge. Within the maximum sentence which Defendant faces under the applicable law, the sentence to be imposed is within the sole discretion of the sentencing judge. Defendant's plea will be tendered pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(B). Defendant may not withdraw his plea of guilty regardless of what sentence is imposed. Nor may Defendant withdraw his plea because the U.S. Probation Office or the sentencing judge declines to follow the Sentencing Guidelines calculations or recommendations of the parties. In the event that the sentencing judge declines to follow the Sentencing Guidelines calculations or recommendations of the U.S. Attorney, the U.S. Attorney reserves the right to defend the sentencing judge's calculations and sentence in any subsequent appeal or collateral challenge.

10. Forfeiture

Defendant will forfeit to the United States any and all assets subject to forfeiture pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982 as a result of his guilty plea. The assets to be forfeited include, but are not limited to, cash, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, tangible and intangible personal property and real estate.

Defendant agrees to assist law enforcement agents and government attorneys in locating, liquidating, recovering, returning to the United States, and forfeiting all forfeitable assets, wherever located, and in whatever names the assets may be held. Defendant shall promptly take whatever steps are deemed necessary by the U.S. Attorney to transfer possession of, and clear title to, all forfeitable assets to the United States. Such steps may include, but are not limited to, executing and surrendering all title documents, and signing consent decrees of forfeiture, deeds, sworn statements relating the factual bases for forfeiture, and any other documents deemed necessary by the government to complete the criminal, civil, or administrative forfeiture proceedings which may be brought against the assets identified in this section and against any other forfeitable assets involved in or related to any of the criminal acts charged in the indictment.

Defendant hereby acknowledges and agrees that the United States is not limited to forfeiture of the assets specifically listed in this section. If the U.S. Attorney determines that any directly forfeitable assets of Defendant cannot be located upon exercise of due diligence, or have

been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party, placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court, substantially diminished in value, or commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, then the United States shall be entitled to forfeit as "substitute assets" any other assets of Defendant up to the value of the directly forfeitable assets fitting any of the categories described in this sentence.

In order to assist the United States in locating and forfeiting directly forfeitable and substitute assets, Defendant shall deliver to the U.S. Attorney within thirty days after signing this Agreement a sworn financial statement, executed under the pains and penalties of perjury, fully and truthfully disclosing the existence, nature and location of all assets in which Defendant currently has any legal or beneficial interest, and all assets over which Defendant has exercised control, or has had any legal or beneficial interest, at any time from April, 2003 to the present. At the request of the U.S. Attorney, Defendant further agrees to be deposed with respect to Defendant's assets.

Forfeiture of substitute assets shall not be deemed an alteration of Defendant's sentence. The forfeitures set forth herein shall not satisfy or offset any fine, restitution, cost of imprisonment, or other penalty imposed upon Defendant, nor shall the forfeitures be used to offset Defendant's tax liability or any other debt owed to the United States.

In addition to all other waivers or releases set forth in this Agreement, Defendant hereby waives any and all claims arising from or relating to the forfeitures set forth in this section, including, without limitation, any claims arising under the Double Jeopardy Clause of the Fifth Amendment, or the Excessive Fines Clause of the Eighth Amendment, to the United States Constitution, or any other provision of state or federal law.

The United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts shall retain jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this section.

11. Information For Presentence Report

Defendant agrees to provide all information requested by the U.S. Probation Office concerning his assets.

12. Civil Liability

By entering into this Agreement, the U.S. Attorney does not compromise any civil liability, including but not limited to any tax liability, which Defendant may have incurred or may incur as a result of his conduct and his plea of guilty to the charges specified in paragraph one of this Agreement.

13. Rejection of Plea By Court

Should Defendant's guilty plea not be accepted by the Court for whatever reason, or later be withdrawn on motion of Defendant, this Agreement shall be null and void at the option of the U.S. Attorney.

14. Breach of Agreement

If the U.S. Attorney determines that Defendant has failed to comply with any provision of this Agreement, has violated any condition of his pretrial release, or has committed any crime following his execution of this Agreement, the U.S. Attorney may, at his sole option, be released from his commitments under this Agreement in their entirety by notifying Defendant, through counsel or otherwise, in writing. The U.S. Attorney may also pursue all remedies available to him under the law, irrespective of whether he elects to be released from his commitments under this Agreement. Further, the U.S. Attorney may pursue any and all charges which have been, or are to be, dismissed pursuant to this Agreement. Defendant recognizes that no such breach by him of an obligation under this Agreement shall give rise to grounds for withdrawal of his guilty plea. Defendant understands that, should he breach any provision of this agreement, the U.S. Attorney will have the right to use against Defendant before any grand jury, at any trial or hearing, or for sentencing purposes, any statements which may be made by him, and any information, materials, documents or objects which may be provided by him to the government subsequent to this Agreement, or pursuant to the proffer agreement dated August 9, 2005, without any limitation. In this regard, Defendant hereby waives any defense to any charges which he might otherwise have under any statute of limitations or the Speedy Trial Act.

15. Who Is Bound By Agreement

This Agreement is limited to the U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts, and cannot and does not bind the Attorney General of the United States or any other federal, state or local prosecutive authorities.

16. Complete Agreement

This letter contains the complete agreement between the parties relating to the disposition of this case. No promises, representations or agreements have been made other than those set forth in this letter and in the proffer letter dated August 9, 2005. This Agreement supersedes prior understandings, if any, of the parties, whether written or oral with the sole exception of those contained in the proffer letter dated August, 9, 2005. This Agreement can be modified or supplemented only in a written memorandum signed by the parties or on the record in court.

If this letter accurately reflects the Agreement between the U.S. Attorney and Defendant, please have Defendant sign the Acknowledgment of Agreement below. Please also sign below as Witness. Return the original of this letter to Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth P. Berman.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN United States Attorney

By:

DIANE C. FRENIERE, Chief White Collar Crime Section

SETH P. BERMAN Assistant U.S. Attorney

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PLEA AGREEMENT

I have read this letter in its entirety and discussed it with my attorney. I hereby acknowledge that it fully sets forth my agreement with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts. I further state that no additional promises or representations have been made to me by any official of the United States in connection with this matter. I understand the crimes to which I have agreed to plead guilty, the maximum penalties for those offenses and Sentencing Guideline penalties potentially applicable to them. I am satisfied with the legal representation provided to me by my attorney. We have had sufficient time to meet and discuss my case. We have discussed the charges against me, possible defenses I might have, the terms of this Plea Agreement and whether I should go to trial. I am entering into this Agreement freely, voluntarily, and knowingly because I am guilty of the offenses to which I am pleading guilty and I believe this Agreement is in my best interest.

EAN NORISCAT

Defendant

Date: 3 -30-06

I certify that JEAN NORISCAT has read this Agreement and that we have discussed its meaning. I believe he understands the Agreement and is entering into the Agreement freely, voluntarily and knowingly.

AMES J. COVIELLO, Esq.

Attorney for Defendant

Date: 3/30/06